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TO: Commissioner for Patents

Attn: Examiner M. Thaler

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DATE: January 10, 2006 FROM: David M. Crompton

OUR REF: 1001.1479101 TELEPHONE: 612-677-9050

Total pages, including cover letter: 8

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Title of Document(s) Transmitted: RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

Applicant: Matthew Heidner Serial No.: 10/032,962 Filed: October 24, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3731 Our Ref. No.: 1001.1479101 Confirmation No.: 8725

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PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

Matthew Heidner

Confirmation No.: 8725

Serial No.:

10/032,962

Examiner: M. Thaler

Filing Date:

October 24, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3731

Docket No.

1001.1479101

Customer No.: 28075

For:

DISTAL BALLOON WAIST MATERIAL RELIEF AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

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RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

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Kathleen L. Buckley

Type or print name of person signing certification

Karslen & Brelley

January 10, 2006

Date

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Final Office Action mailed November 14, 2005, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on February 14, 2006. This paper is filed within the set period for response such that no extension of time is necessary.

Please consider the following amendments and/or remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.